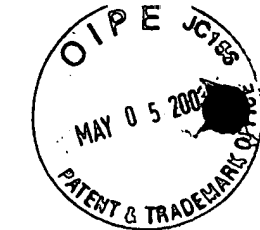


D-3004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT

In the application of:
Hughes

Serial No. 10/016,850

Filed: December 14, 2001

For: PHARMACEUTICAL CONJUGATES WITH
ENHANCED PHARMACOKINETIC
CHARACTERISTICS

Group Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: Delacroix Muizner

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Title

Date

APRIL 30, 2003
[Signature]
att'y

4/30/03

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's communication mailed
March 31, 2003.

Restriction has been required between Group I, claims 1 to 16,
drawn to pharmaceutical conjugates, and Group II, claims 17 to 23,
drawn to methods of treating an ophthalmic condition. Applicant
provisionally elects the Group I claims. However, applicant
traverses the restriction requirement.

Claims 1 to 16, the Group I claims, are directed to
pharmaceutical conjugates comprising a therapeutic component and a
specifically defined efficacy enhancing component. Claims 17 to
23, the Group II claims, are directed to methods for treating an
ophthalmic condition comprising the step administering a
pharmaceutical conjugate comprising a therapeutic component and a
specifically defined efficacy enhancing component. Thus, all of

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the present claims are closely related so that a search with regard to one of the groups of claims would encompass a search for the other group of claims. Thus, the Patent and Trademark Office is placed under no undue burden to consider all of the present claims in the above-identified application.

In view of the above, applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that all of the present claims, that is claims 1 to 23, be considered and examined in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank J. Uxa
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 25,612
4 Venture, Suite 300
Irvine, CA 92618
(714) 450-1750
Facsimile (714) 450-1764

FJU/jm

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